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MONTANA STATE BOARD OF HEALTH

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HELENA, MONTANA

Published Monthly at Helena, by the State Board of Health.

"Sanitary Regulation Will Prevent More Crime Than Law."



TYPHOID FEVER AND FLIES.

A large per cent of all cases of Typhoid Fever that occur in Montana between now and the first of September will be due to fly infection. That is, the disease germs will reach those who become infected by flies transmitting them on their feet from sources of infection to the food.

Now is the time to fight the fly. See that your windows and doors are screened securely. This will keep most of the flies out of your house. But even with the most careful screening, some flies will invariably find their way into the house and come in contact with your food. Naturally if the number of flies be reduced there will be less liability of their getting into your house, therefore, do your part in reducing their number by doing away with places where they breed.

Horse manure is the favorite breeding and hatching place for flies. Do not permit this breeding ground to exist on your premises. If you do not have enough manure to justify hauling it away daily, provide a fly-proof box in which to keep the manure. Such a box is easily made from a large dry-goods box provided with a spring door in one side or end. This door is made by cutting out a square piece from the end of the box and attaching an ordinary spring hinge at the lower side, so that when a shovelful of manure is pressed against the door it will spring shut again. The bottom of the box is removed so that the manure rests on the ground, and when the box is full it is lifted off and the manure is more easily shoveled into the wagon than would be the case if it were placed in a completely closed box.

Manure is not the only place where flies breed and hatch. Any organic material will furnish a suitable hatching place. Therefore see that your garbage cans are well covered or screened against flies. See that every particle of organic matter is removed from your yards. Do not throw table refuse on the ground in your yard and see that your servants are not permitted to do so. Give your yard a thorough cleaning and see that it is kept clean. Do not think that if you clean your premises once a month that flies will be prevented from hatching there. A fly will lay her eggs and bring forth an abundant

brood of young flies in a very few days. In order to prevent this the hatching places must be eliminated, not once a month, but every day.

Remember that there is abundant organic material in the average can from which vegetables or fruits have been removed to furnish a hatching place for many flies; therefore see that tin cans from which food materials have been removed are burned before they are placed where flies can secure access to them, or better yet, see that they are promptly removed to the dump grounds.

Constant cleanliness will reduce the flies to a surprising extent. Spasmodic cleaning will have little or no effect on the prevalence of flies. Individual cleanliness is essential in all things but community cleanliness is required in the fight against the fly.

By fighting the fly you are not only preventing typhoid fever, but you are preventing many other diseases. The fly can carry the germ of every known disease on his feet. All the fly asks is a source of infection and he will do the rest.

SWAT THE FLY.

Swat the fly!
Spot the fly!
Let not the fly
Get by!

Whack the fly!
Crack the fly!
Attack the fly,
Or die!

The dirty rascal plants his feet
On filth, and then on what you eat;
He cakewalks through a garbage can,
And lights at once on a frying-pan;
He gathers poison with his toes,
And leaves it on the baby's nose;
He's on the friendliest of terms
With all the death dealing germs.
One dirty, nasty little fly
Can spoil a whole day's milk supply.
The pesky, buzzing, mean galoot
Exists but to befoul, pollute;
He isn't very hard to please—
He's happy if he spreads disease.
Make friends if you wish, of a rabbid dog.
A rattlesnake, or a slimy hog;
But every time you see a fly
Biff him squarely in the eye.

Drat the fly!

Swat the fly!

—J. E. R. in Texas Board of Health Bulletin.

Cut this out and pin it to the wall over your kitchen table. When you are about to throw any organic matter into the yard read it and remember that the organic matter you are about to throw out will furnish a hatching place for flies and you will put it into the stove instead of throwing it into the yard.

REGISTRARS MUST SECURE PROPER DEATH CERTIFICATES.

The laws of the State prohibit the burial of any dead body until a burial permit has been secured from the registrar of births and deaths from the district in which death occurs. The undertaker or person acting as undertager is charged with securing the burial permit, and in order to secure burial permit he must file with the registrar of births and deaths a complete and properly made out death certificate. It is the duty of the registrar to see that the death certificate is properly made out and a burial permit must be withheld until death certificate is complete. When bodies are not attended by a physician, it is the duty of the registrar to secure a proper cause of death either through the coroner, local health officer, or by personal investigation as set forth in the following opinion by the Attorney General.

April 20, 1911.

Dr. T. D. Tuttle, Secretary,
State Board of Health, Helena, Mont.

Dear Sir—I am in receipt of your letter of April 15th, wherein you state that you are frequently unable to ascertain the proper cause of death where death certificates are signed by coroners, and requesting my opinion as to whether or not under the provisions of the Act providing for the registration of births and deaths, you can require a coroner to learn the probable cause of death and fill out the death certificate accordingly.

In reply I will say that under the provisions of Section 1760 and 1761 of the Revised Codes, physicians who attend deceased persons in their last sickness, clergymen who officiate at a funeral, coroners who hold inquest, sextons and undertakers who bury deceased persons must keep a registry of the name, age, residence and time of death of such persons; and all persons registering marriages, births or deaths must quarterly file with the county clerk a certified copy of their register specifying among other things the cause of death.

Under the provisions of Section 1766, Revised Codes, being under the Chapter relating to State Bureau of Vital Statistics the health officer of the city or town in the local registrar in and for the city or town of which he is health officer, and shall perform the duties of local registrar.

Under the provisions of Section 1768, the body of any person whose death occurs in the State shall not be interred or otherwise disposed of or removed until a permit for burial or removal shall have been properly issued by the registrar of the district in which the death occurs. And no such burial or removal permit shall be issued by any registrar until a complete and satisfactory certificate of death has been filed with him.

Under the provisions of Section 1770, Revised Codes, as amended by Chapter 48 of the Eleventh Session Laws, the undertaker or person acting as undertaker shall be responsible for obtaining and filing the certificate of the death with the registrar and securing a burial permit prior to any disposition of the body. He shall obtain the personal and statistical particulars required from the person best qualified to supply them and present the certificate to the attending physician for the medical certificate of the cause of death, and the attending physician is required to make a certificate of the cause of death and the undertaker shall then present the completed certificate to the registrar to secure the burial or removal permit. The undertaker is required to deliver duplicate burial permits to the sexton or person in charge of the place of burial before interring the body. The medical certificate is required to be made and signed by the attending physician, if any, in attendance on the deceased.

By the provisions of Section 1771, in cases of any death occurring without medical attendance it is the duty of the undertaker to notify the registrar of such death and when so notified the Registrar is required to inform the local health officer or coroner and refer the case to him for immediate investigation and certification prior to issuing a burial permit.

By the provisions of Section 1773, no sexton or person in charge of any cemetery in which interments are made shall inter, or permit to be interred, any body unless it is accompanied by the burial permit herein before referred to; and he is required to endorse upon the permit the date of interment, over his signature, and to return the permit so endorsed to the local registrar of his district within ten days from the date of interment.

Under the provisions of Section 1775, Revised Codes, it is the duty of the local registrar to supply proper forms of certifi-

cates; to carefully examine each certificate when presented for record to see that it has been properly made out, and if any certificate is incomplete, it is his duty to call attention to the defect in the return and withhold issuing the burial permit until corrected.

It is apparent, therefore, that the duty devolves upon the local registrar to see that the burial certificate is properly filled out before he issues a burial permit and the only case in which the coroner is to determine the cause of death is when death occurs without medical attendance, and the registrar informs the local health officer or coroner and refers the case to him for immediate investigation. The coroner may not be able to ascertain the cause of death and it is the duty of the local health officer or local registrar to determine this fact as near as may be before issuing the burial certificate.

The local registrar is the person who is required to see that the cause of death is determined if possible before burial permit is issued by him and he is the person who is required to report to the State Registrar and you should therefore look to the local registrar and not to the coroner for obtaining information upon matters pertaining to the Bureau of Vital Statistics. Yours very truly,

ALBERT J. GALEN,
Attorney General.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES REPORTED FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL, 1911.

SMALLPOX—Cases of Smallpox were reported as follows: Great Falls, 2; Chouteau, 16; Fergus, 1; Flathead (Excl. of Kalispell), 2; Helena, 1 (imported from Jefferson County); Missoula City, 1; Silver Bow (Excl. of Butte), 2; Butte, 3; Valley, 4. Total, 32. Total last month, 59.

DIPHTHERIA—Chouteau, 6; Custer, 1; Dawson, 1; Anaconda, 2; Fergus, 1; Jefferson, 1; Madison, 1; Butte, 1. Total, 14. Total last month, 17.

SCARLET FEVER—Cases of Scarlet Fever were reported as follows: Beaverhead, 5; Carbon, 5; Cascade (Excl. of Great Falls), 2; Great Falls, 1; Fergus, 10; Gallatin (Excl. of Bozeman), 10; Bozeman, 4; Lewis and Clark (Excl. of Helena), 2; Helena, 11; Lincoln, 1; Missoula (Excl. of Missoula City), 2; Missoula City, 1; Musselshell, 5; Livingston, 3; Silver Bow (Excl. of Butte), 1; Butte, 3; Teton, 10; Yellowstone (Excl. of Billings), 6; Billings, 6. Total, 88. Total last month, 108.

TYPHOID FEVER—Cases of Typhoid Fever were reported as follows: Chouteau, 2; Fergus, 2; Flathead (Excl. of Kalispell), 1; Gallatin (Excl. of Bozeman), 1; Jefferson, 2; Missoula City, 1 (imported from Missoula County); Musselshell, 1; Butte, 1; Billings, 3 (2 imported from Yellowstone County). Total, 14. Total last month, 11.

MEASLES—Cases of Measles were reported as follows: Beaverhead, 1; Broadwater, 51; Carbon, 70; Cascade (Excl. of Great Falls), 1; Chouteau, 10; Fergus, 9; Flathead (Excl. of Kalispell), 86; Kalispell, 24; Gallatin (Excl. of Bozeman), 7; Bozeman, 71; Granite, 3; Jefferson, 4; Lewis and Clark (Excl. of Helena), 28; Helena, 14; Madison, 84; Musselshell, 6; Livingston, 26; Ravalli, 24; Rosebud, 1; Teton, 3;

MORTALITY.

Deaths reported to the State Board of Health for the month of April, 1911. Arranged according to counties and cities.

	Spotted Fever	Small Pox	Tuberculosis	Diphtheria	Scarlet Fever	Measles	Typhoid Fever	Meningitis	Whooping Cough	Pneumonia	Nephritis	Organic Heart Disease	Malignant Tumors	Acute Intestinal Diseases	Violence	Suicide	Alcoholism	All Other Causes	Totals
Beaverhead	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	..	1	..	..	2	8
Broadwater	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Carbon	2	..	..	..	1	..	..	4	2	..	..	..	..	1	..	6	16
Cascade Excl. of.....	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	1	1	1	1	..	2	9
Great Falls	2	..	1	..	2	2	..	3	4	1	1	2	2	1	..	3	19
Chouteau	2	..	..	2	..	..	..	1	2	1	..	..	2	..	..	2	12
Custer	2	..	..	..	1	1	..	1	..	1	..	..	9	15
Dawson	1	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	10
Deer Lodge Excl. of.....	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	5
Anaconda	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	4	1	3	..	..	..	1	..	5	16
Fergus	1	..	1	1	1	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	7
Flathead, Excl. of.....	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	..	..	..	1	..	..	3	8
Kalispell	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	3
Gallatin, Excl. of.....	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	3	5
Bozeman	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	4
Granite	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	3
Jefferson	2	2
Lewis and Clark, Excl. of..	1	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	1	4
Helena	2	3	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	3	..	2	1	1	..	4	19
Lincoln	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Madison	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	2	..	..	..	2	9
Meagher	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	3
Missoula, Excl. of	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	1	4
Missoula City	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	2	6	2	2	1	..	7	21
Musselshell	1	..	..	5	1	..	..	..	7
Park, Excl. of	1	1	..	2	..	..	..	2	6
Livingston	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	4	6
Powell	3	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	1	6
Ravalli	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	4	7
Rosebud	1	..	..	..	1	2
Sanders
Silver Bow, Excl. of.....	..	5	..	..	..	..	2	..	1	2	..	..	1	3	..	..	..	7	21
Butte	9	..	..	..	..	1	..	5	3	..	5	1	3	2	1	17	47	
Sweet Grass	1	1
Teton	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	4	1	..	..	1	9
Valley	1	..	..	1
Yellowstone, Excl. of	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	3
Billings	1	..	1	..	2	3	..	..	..	2	9
Totals	1	33	1	6	12	4	7	2	32	19	25	17	10	37	10	2	111	329	

Population, 375,000.

Monthly death rate per 1,000—.877.

Annual death rate per 1,000—10.52.

Births reported to the State Board of Health for the Month of April, 1911, and comparative birth and death rate in the State.

	Males	Females	Totals	Deaths	Excess of births	Excess of deaths
Beaverhead	8	4	12	2	4	..
Broadwater	2	2	4	1	3	..
Carbon	12	18	30	16	14	..
Cascade (Excl. of)	10	12	22	9	13	..
Great Falls	23	23	46	19	27	..
Chouteau	5	9	14	12	2	..
Custer	9	9	18	15	3	..
Dawson	13	7	20	10	10	..
Deer Lodge (Excl. of)				5		5
Anaconda	6	10	16	16	..	..
Fergus	13	12	25	7	18	..
Flathead (Excl. of)	16	5	21	8	13	..
Kalispell	9	4	13	3	10	..
Gallatin (Excl. of)	7	8	15	5	10	..
Bozeman	5	5	10	4	6	..
Granite .....	..	1	1	3	..	2
Jefferson	3	5	8	2	6	..
Lewis and Clark (Excl. of)	5	3	8	4	4	..
Helena	13	14	27	19	8	..
Lincoln	4	2	6	1	5	..
Madison	3	4	7	9	..	2
Meagher	4	5	9	3	6	..
Missoula (Excl. of)	2	6	8	4	4	..
Missoula City	17	5	22	21	1	..
Musselshell	12	10	22	7	15	..
Park (Excl. of)	5	4	9	6	3	..
Livingston	3	8	11	6	5	..
Powell	3	2	5	6	..	1
Ravalli	4	9	13	7	6	..
Rosebud	2	2	4	2	2	..
Sanders	2	1	3	..	3	..
Silver Bow (Excl. of)	18	16	34	21	13	..
Butte	35	28	63	47	16	..
Sweet Grass	7	8	15	1	14	..
Teton	5	6	11	9	2	..
Valley	12	11	23	1	22	..
Yellowstone (Excl. of)	4	6	10	3	7	..
Billings	12	11	23	9	14	..
Totals	313	295	608	329	279	